18th December 1953]

• *Free medical assistance to Ministers.*

* 138 *Q.*—Sri K. R. VISWANATHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) the names of Ministers who were given free medical assistance by the Government during the year 1952–53; and

(*b*) the amount of expenditure incurred on that account?

The Hon. Sri A. B. SHETTY :—" (*a*) & (*b*) It is presumed that the hon. the Member wants information regarding the medical assistance given not only to the Ministers but also to the members of their families. On this basis a statement [a] is laid on the table of the House."

Sri K. R. VISWANATHAN :—" Will the Government consider the advisability of extending free medical assistance to the Members of this House also?"

The Hon. Sri A. B. SHETTY :—" Only those whose monthly income is less than Rs. 100 are given free medical aid, Sir."

Loss due to floods in the Cauvery.

* 139 *Q.*—Sri M. PALANIYANDI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) the loss incurred on account of the floods in the Cauvery, Coleroon and Bhavani rivers during August 1953; and

(*b*) what are the ameliorative measures taken by the Government?

The Hon. Sri M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" (*a*) & (*b*) Due to floods in the Cauvery and Coleroon rivers in the middle of August 1953, Chintamani which is a low lying area in Tiruchirappalli town was inundated and about 25 huts out of 70 collapsed and about 700 persons were rendered homeless. All of them were immediately removed to safe quarters and arrangements were made to feed them with public help. There has been no loss of human life or cattle or property other than the huts referred to above. Further, an extent of about 1,600 acres in the villages of Chintamani, Woraiyur, Pandamangalam, Puthur, Devadanam, Kambarasampettai and Marudandakurichi lying continguous to one another was water-logged and in Musiri taluk water-logging was reported in about 350 acres of lands in four or five villages. During the time the floods lasted, elaborate arrangements were made with the help of local philanthrophic men to feed the affected persons and the municipal authorities made satisfactory sanitary arrangements. A non-official committee was formed and in response to an appeal made by the committee, a sum of Rs. 5,452 was collected. In addition, the Government also propose to make cash grants to the tune of Rs. 3,620 to the persons affected by the floods."

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[a] Printed as Appendix II on page 286 infra.